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erwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Request Application Number 09/974,898-Conf. #8944 For Filing Date October 12, 2001 Continued Examination (RCE) **Transmittal** Kunihiro Miichi First Named Inventor Address to: 2623 MS RCE Art Unit **Examiner Name** C. M. Larose

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Attorney Docket Number O3020.0279/P279 This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114 | Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on i. ii. Other Enclosed х X Amendment/Reply Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) i. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) 2. Miscellaneous Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of ___ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required) The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed. 3. Fees The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, any underpayment of fees, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. _____ . I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet. X RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e) Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17) ii iii. Other Check in the amount of \$ enclosed c. | X Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed) SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED 1946/2010 e ce haber 8992005 09974898 Signature

200.00 Predictation No. Name (Print/Type) Thomas J. D'Amico 28,371